

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 and 13 are canceled without prejudice.

Claims 2, 5, and 6 are currently amended to place the claims in independent form and for clarity.

Claims 11, 12, 17-21, 23, and 26-29 are currently amended for clarity.

Support for new Claims 30-34 is found in Claims 7, 5, 6, 10, and 9, respectively, as originally-filed.

Claims 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 17-21, 23, and 26-34 are active.

No new matter is added.

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Weiner for indicating that Claims 13, 19-21, 23, and 27-29 are allowed, and that Claims 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 17, and 18 are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, Claims 2, 5, 6 and 6 are rewritten in independent form.

The rejection of Claim 1 under 35 USC §102(b) in view of US Patent No. 5,733,430 (Ashida et al.) has been obviated by appropriate amendment. As such, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Applicants submit the application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification of such allowance is earnestly solicited.


Respectfully submitted,

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